

Ludhiana, 28th July, 1905.

DEAR FRIEND,

In the year 1882 Messrs. Trubner & Co. of London published a Comprehensive Commentary on the Quran comprising Sale's Translation and Preliminary Discourse, with Additional Notes and Emendations together, with A Complete Index to the Text, Preliminary Discourse and Notes compiled and edited by myself. This work was published in 4 Octavo Vols., and was supplied to Indian subscribers at Rs. 5/- a volume or Rs. 20/- for the complete set. The first edition being exhausted, a second edition has been published; and by an arrangement with the publishers, I am able to offer to those missionaries and students, who may desire, a complete set of this commentary, for £1-4s. plus the cost of carriage, which will not probably be beyond Rs. 2/- per copy. In order to reduce the expenditure of carriage to a minimum, I would like to secure an order for 100 sets to be sent at once, and therefore, I am sending this letter with an accompanying subscription form and shall be glad to have your name among the subscribers.

The plan adopted in the preparation of this work was as follows:—First, To present Sale's Translation of the Quran in the form of the Arabic Original, indicating the Sipara, Surat, Raqu of the Sipara, and the Raqu of the Surat, etc. as they are in the best oriental editions: Second, to number the verses as they are in the Roman-Urdu edition of Maulvi Abdul Qadir's translation. This arrangement will be of much benefit to Missionaries in India. Third, to exhibit in the notes and comments, the views of the best Muslim Commentators. For this I am indebted for the most part, to Sale, the Tafsir-i-Raufi, Tafsir-i-Hussaini, Tafsir-i-Fatah-ar-Rahman and the notes of Abdul Qadir's Urdu Translation of the Quran. Sale's notes have almost entirely been drawn (with the aid of Maracci's Work in Latin) from the standard works of Beizawi the Jalalain and Al Zamakhshari. I have also quoted much from some of the best European writers on Islam. Fourth, to the above is prefixed Sale's Preliminary Discourse, with additional notes and emendations. And the last volume contains a complete Index both to the Text of and the Notes on the Quran, which will enable the reader to acquaint himself with the teaching of the Quran on any particular subject with a very small amount of labour.

My endeavour has been to show what the Quran actually teaches. On the other hand, I have endeavoured to remove, as far as known to me, the misapprehensions and consequent misrepresentations of the doctrines of the Quran, popular among Christians, believing, that every such error strengthens the prejudices of the Muhammedans and thereby aids the cause it seeks to overthrow, whilst justifying similar misrepresentations from the Muslim side. Everywhere, I have endeavoured to advance the cause of the truth, to show just what the Quran teaches, and so by stating fairly the issues of the controversy with Islam, to advance the great cause of bringing its votaries to acknowledge Him to whom all the Prophets of God pointed as the Son of God and the Saviour of sinners.

I may say, without any exaggeration, that thus far, no one has attempted to cover anew this ground, and that, therefore, I may fairly claim, that this work is still new. Inasmuch as, there is, at this time a sincere desire to greatly further the cause of Missions amongst Muslims, ought not every Mission Station possess a set of this commentary for the use of its missionaries and Indian workers?

Yours very sincerely.

E. M. WHERRY.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM.

.....1905.

To The Rev. E. M. Wherry, D. D., LUDHIANA, PUNJAB.

DEAR SIR,

Please enter my name upon your subscription list for.....Sets of your Comprehensive Commentary on the Quran, published in 4 Vols. Octavo by Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench Trübner & Co., London, for which I am to pay not more than Rs. 20/- including the cost of carriage for each set.

Name

Address